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Photo by Peter G. Sánchez



Art teacher Eiris McCoy instructs fourth graders in the new art and music room, at St. Peter School in Merchantville. On Tuesday, Oct. 23, the new art and music room, and the new science lab, were blessed by parish pastor, Father Anthony Manuppella.

MERCHANTVILLE — On Tuesday morning, Oct. 25, St. Peter School in Merchantville held a blessing for its two new classrooms, an art and music room, and a science lab, which will further help the school provide a well-rounded education for its more than 300 students.

In front of the school's students, principal Antonia Taylor, faculty, staff, and school board members, Father Anthony Manuppella, pastor, blessed the two new classrooms, which were constructed in a space that was once the school cafeteria. The space also includes a kindergarten classroom, library and media room.

The art and music room, with prints of masterpieces like Van Gogh's "Starry Night" and paintings of sunflowers on the walls, and piano, guitar and tambourines

available, is currently in use for all students. Classes will start next week in the next-door science lab, said school Taylor.

"The space is fully dedicated for the students," said Taylor. "It will give them an opportunity to grow in the Catholic faith."

With the new classrooms, "we hope to be on the cutting edge of education," said Father Manuppella. The art and music room will "help the students develop spiritually, because it will help them appreciate the art and music in our Church, and help them lift their hearts to God."

Likewise, the science lab "will help students be well-prepared for the future, with its constant scientific growth," he said.